States	Upto31.3.1999	200001	2001-02	2002-03
Maharashtra	26	—	1	—
Orissa	1.80	—		—
Uttar Pradesh	—	—		1.28
West Bengal	—	—		—
TOTAL	283.05	19	74	81.53

Objections to Electricity Bill, 2003

*32. SHRI P. PRABHAKAR REDDY: Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that sometime back, the Chief Minister of Andhra Pradesh raised some serious objections with regard to the Electricity Bill, 2003 passed by Parliament;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) Government's reaction thereto and action taken/proposed to be taken thereon?

THE MINISTER OF POWER (SHRI ANANT GANGARAM GEETE): (a) and (b) The Chief Minister of Andhra Pradesh in his letter to the Prime Minister has supported the overall objectives of the Electricity Act, 2003, which is a critical legislation to facilitate development and improved management of the power sector by promoting measures conducive to promotion of competition and encouraging private participation, and raised some concerns about some of its provisions. While supporting open access, concern has been expressed regarding the liberal definition of captive generation, exemption from surcharge for such captive generation to take care of cross subsidy, provision relating to parallel distribution networks in the area of existing distribution licensee, operational provision relating to theft and period of disconnection.

(c) The Electricity Bill, 2001 was introduced in the Lok Sabha in August, 2001. This was evolved on the basis of a broad consensus after detailed and in-depth discussions with the States and all other stakeholders. The Bill had, along with other progressive features, the provisions for captive generation being freely permitted and having right to non-discriminatory open access through the grid without payment of surcharge and also for more than one distribution licensee operating in the same area of supply.

The Bill was referred to the Standing Committee on Energy in the Lok Sabha, which again undertook detailed consultation with ail stakeholders including State Governments. The Government accepted most of the recommendations of the Standing Committee. The liberalization in the definition of captive generation was affected on the basis of the recommendations of the Standing Committee.

Availability of coal in collieries

*33. SHRI ABANI ROY: Will the Minister of COAL be pleased to refer to reply to Unstarred Question No. 1804 given in the Rajya Sabha on 6th August, 2003 and state:

(a) whether it is a fact that there is availability of coal in the collieries which have been specified by the Hon'ble High Court, Jharkhand; and

(b) if not, what is the production of the collieries named Amlo, New Sel. Dhori, Karo, Khasmahal, Jarangdih and Sel. Dhori since January, 2003 onwards?

THE MINISTER OF COAL (SHRI KARIYA MUNDA):(a)and(b)Yes, Sir. However, the coal produced from the collieries which have been specified by the Hon'ble High Court, Jharkhand, is being supplied to priority sector consumers like power stations and steel plants under core sector. After meeting the requirement of core sector, balance coal available is offered/allocated to different categories of non core sector on pro-rata basis. The production figures of the collieries mentioned in the High Court order for the period January, 2003 to October, 2003 are given below: -

(figures in '000 tonnes)

Name of Colliery	Production
Amlo	426
New Sel. Dhori	32
Sel. Dhori Quarry No. 1	763
Sel. Dhori Quarry No. 3	1258
Karo	1152
Khasmahal	478
Jarangdih	364